

CLAIMS

~~1. In the Claims:~~

~~1. A method for the treatment of bagged material which comprises;~~

5 ~~mounting an open end of a large flexible bag and a gathered portion of the bag onto a bag filling machine,~~

10 ~~filling the bag through the open end with material to be stored and treated during storage, said filling including the progressive deployment of the gathered portion of the bag, and~~

15 ~~10 during the bag filling process directing a perforated conduit from the machine and through the open end of the bag into the material contained in the bag and upon filling the bag, extending an end of the conduit exterior of the bag for connection to a media source for flowing a media into and through the conduit to be passed through the conduit perforations and into the stored material.~~

2. A method for treatment of bagged material as defined in Claim 1 wherein the media is air and the treatment provided thereby is for drying, and which method further includes forcing air from the media source through the bagged material and monitoring the moisture content of the material to determine the attainment of the desired moisture content.

25 3. A method as defined in Claim 2 which further includes providing an exhaust portal in the bag for exhausting air following

treatment therewith of the material.

4. A method as defined in Claim 3 wherein the bagged material is grain having a moisture content above 15%, and treating the 5 grain while monitoring the moisture content to reduce the moisture content to at least 15%.

5. A method as defined in Claim 1 which further includes placement of the filled portions of the bag in a fixed location and 10 causing deployment of additional portions of the bag by moving the machine relative to the filled portion of the bag.

Sub 2 6. An apparatus for filling a large plastic bag with material to be stored and treated, said apparatus comprising;

15 a mobile machine including a materials receiving tunnel and a delivery mechanism for delivering materials to the tunnel, said machine having a rear opening and structure surrounding said opening for receiving and deploying a large plastic bag to be filled with material to be stored and treated, said structure 20 defining a bag opening with the bag received thereon and said delivery mechanism causing the delivered material to flow through said tunnel and bag opening to be deposited into said bag, and

25 a feed tube extended from exterior of said tunnel and into the tunnel, said feed tube defining a feed path for a conduit for directing a conduit through the open end of the bag and into the bag.

7. An apparatus as defined in Claim 6 wherein a conduit holding reel is provided on said machine and exterior of said tunnel, a length of flexible perforated conduit coiled onto said reel with an end extended into the feed tube for insertion into said bag.

8. An apparatus as defined in Claim 7 wherein the delivery mechanism delivers grain into said tunnel, said tunnel having a forward wall that declines rearwardly and said feed tube secured to said forward wall and having an end section that curves rearwardly away from said wall to terminate at the tunnel end, said conduit having perforations whereby air forced through the conduit is dispensed into the grain through said perforations.

15 9. An apparatus as defined in Claim 6 wherein multiple feed tubes are strategically positioned to distribute multiple perforated conduits through different cross sectional areas of the bag.

20 10. A method of treating materials comprising:
placing materials in large plastic storage bags that are impervious to moisture and air;
placing conduits in the material having at least one end extended out of the bag and exposed to the exterior of the bag, and
25 having openings inside the bag and exposed to the material therein;
and

forcing a media into the exposed end of the conduit, through the conduit and into the material in the bag for treating said material.

5 11. A method as defined in Claim 10 wherein the media is air, attaching a blower to the exposed end and blowing air into said conduit for aerating said material.

10 12. A method as defined in Claim 11 wherein the material is grain to be dried.